

# Advocacy Advisory Committee Action Plans

The ASHE Advocacy Advisory Committee is working on several initiatives to help improve codes and standards. This is an outline of the committee's action plans.

## Monitor Pending Regulations

The ASHE Advocacy Advisory Committee is developing a process to continually scan and detect pending regulations that will affect ASHE members. The committee is recruiting a network of people and is using technology to stay aware of all relevant guidelines and state and local activities.

## Advocate for the Adoption of Recommended Codes by All States

The committee is working on the development of a recommended package of codes and regulations regarding the design, construction, maintenance, and operation of health facilities for adoption by the states. The committee is also working to facilitate adoption of recommended codes by states and federal agencies.

## Promote Evidence-Based Codes

The committee supports the increased use of scientific evidence and cost-conscious decision making in regulatory compliance development. The committee is urging code writers to take a more rigorous approach to ensuring that only fact-based changes are made to their codes and standards.

## Support the ASHE Advocacy Highway

The ASHE Advocacy Highway is a two-way means of communication between ASHE advocacy leaders and advocacy liaisons in state and local ASHE-affiliated chapters. The plan calls for quarterly conference calls with chapter advocacy liaisons, the ASHE Advocacy Advisory Committee, and ASHE advocacy staff members. The meetings and discussions are being used to ensure a consistent flow of information about code issues between ASHE and its chapters.

## Incorporate Commissioning into FGI Guidelines

This committee is supporting the incorporation of health care facility commissioning standards into the Facility Guidelines Institute's *Guidelines for Design and Construction of Health Care Facilities*.

## Urge Adoption of FGI Guidelines

The committee is encouraging states to adopt the 2010 edition of the Facility Guidelines Institute's *Guidelines for Design and Construction of Health Care Facilities*. Many states have adopted the FGI *Guidelines*, but states vary in terms of which edition they use.

## Support the Just Ask ASHE Service

The committee is developing a process and timeline for receiving and answering Just Ask ASHE questions from members. This service allows ASHE members to ask code questions and get direct answers from experts.

## Review International Code Council Proposals

The committee is reviewing proposed changes to International Code Council codes affecting health care facilities. The committee is tracking codes and proposals and assessing their effect on health care design and construction.



## Support Codes Reflecting Minimum Requirements

The committee is working to promote codes and standards based on a philosophy of minimum requirements, which protect patient and staff health and safety without adding unnecessary costs.

## Show How Facility Managers Affect Patient Satisfaction

The committee is developing materials that show how health care facility managers can have a positive impact on patient satisfaction survey scorecards.

ASHE members:  
Get involved in  
advocacy today!  
E-mail  
[advocacyhighway@aha.org](mailto:advocacyhighway@aha.org)  
for more information.